

Message Text

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17

ACTION DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 EB-07 L-02 /028 W

----- 043784

R 152120Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6460

INFO AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 1841

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, CA

SUBJECT: ALASKA HIGHWAY - HAINES RECONSTRUCTION

PASS USIA

DOT PASS LINDBERG

REF: OTTAWA 1289

1. W R BINKS, PROGRA MANAGER (CIVIL), DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, ADVISED TCO MAY 15 THAT CABINET ON MAY 8 APPROVED ENTRY INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE USG ON RECONSTRUCTION HAINES SEGMENTS ALASKA HIGHWAY SUBJECT TO ASSURANCES REGARDING CANADIAN SOVEREIGNTY (I.E., AMENDMENT OF THE US LEGISLATION DEALING WITH THE RIGHT OF WAY AS DISCUSSED JANUARY 21 MEETING), ALLOWING PARTICIPATION OF NON-RESIDENT US CONTRACTORS IN THE WORK, AND ASSUMING NEGOTIATION OF SATISFACTORY ARRANGMENTS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

2. BINKS INDICATED THAT NO ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE MADE BY USG THAT THE GOC CABINET HAS GIVEN THIS APPROVAL UNTIL FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE BRITISH COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT (WHICH WILL START PROMPTLY AND ARE EXPECTED TO POSE NO PROBLEMS SO FAR AS THIS PROJECT IS CONCERNED) HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. ANY ANNOUNCEMENT THEN MADE SHOULD BE A JOINT ONE BY USG-GOC-GBC GOVERNMENTS. USIS OTTAWA WILL HANDLE RELATIONS WITH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS' PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH ON THIS

MATTER SUBJECT TO GUIDANCE FROM FHWA WASHINGTON.

3. BINKS FURTHER INDICATED THAT FHWA COULD NOW WITH CONFIDENCE HAVE INTRODUCED US LEGISLATION AMENDING RIGHT OF WAY PROVISIONS SUBJECT TO POINT ABOVE ABOUT TIMING OF PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOC CABINET APPROVAL.

4. HE ALSO ADVISED THAT GOC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PANEL WILL HOLD INITIAL MEETING VANCOUVER, MAY 28, TO DETERMINE GUIDELINES FOR WORK BY CONSULTANTS. EMBASSY SUGGESTED THAT US CONSUL GENERAL STUTESMAN BE INVITED. BINKS IS AGREEABLE, IF US SIDE SO DESIRES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: FHWA INFORMATION OFFICE SHOULD TELEPHONE DAVE WILSON OR BEN FORDNEY, USIS OTTAWA (613-238-5335) RE COORDINATION OF ANNOUNCEMENT.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

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